

# INVENTORY.

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## 42384 and 42385. *NEPHELIUM* spp. Sapindaceæ.

From Buitenzorg, Java. Presented by the director of the Botanic Gardens. Received April 6, 1916.

### 42384. *NEPHELIUM LAPPACEUM* L.

### Rambutan.

"The rambutan tree grows to a height of about 40 feet, and when in fruit is a handsome sight, the terminal clusters of bright crimson fruits being produced on every branch. The compound leaves are made up of oblong-ovate leaflets about 4 inches long by 2 inches wide. In habit of growth the tree appears to be normally rather round-topped and spreading, but as it is frequently planted among other trees, it is forced to grow tall and slender, branching only at a considerable height above the ground. A cluster of rambutans, when highly colored, is exceptionally attractive. The best forms attain, when fully ripe, a rich crimson color. The individual fruits are slightly smaller than a hen's egg, but more elongated in form. They are covered with soft spines about half an inch in length and are borne in clusters of about 10 to 12 fruits. The skin is not thick or tough, and to eat the fruit the basal end is torn off, exposing the aril, which, with a slight pressure on the apical end of the fruit, slides into one's mouth. The aril is white, nearly transparent, about one-fourth of an inch thick, and has a mildly subacid, somewhat vinous flavor." (*Wilson Popenoe*.)

See S. P. I. No. 34494 for previous introduction.

### 42385. *NEPHELIUM MUTABILE* Blume.

### Pulassan.

"*Pulassan*. A Malayan tree, similar to the rambutan in appearance, but differing in the fruit and in the leaves, which are gray beneath. The fruit is larger than the rambutan, of a deep purple-brown, with short, blunt processes, and, according to Ridley, the flavor is decidedly superior to that of the latter fruit." (*Macmillan, Handbook of Tropical Gardening, 2d ed., p. 176.*)

## 42386. *CASTILLA NICOYENSIS* O. F. Cook. Moraceæ.

### Nicoya rubber.

From San Jose, Costa Rica. Presented by Mr. Carlos Wercklé, Department of Agriculture. Received April 3, 1916.

A medium-sized tree, 10 to 20 meters high, with deciduous leaves 8 to 18 inches long and 4 to 8 inches broad, bearing inconspicuous flowers and orange-red fruits in a receptacle 2 to 3 inches in diameter. Reported so far only from the peninsula of Nicoya, but the probability is that it will be found all along the Pacific coast from Nicaragua to Panama. It is a good rubber producer, the milk being particularly abundant toward the end of the dry season. Owing to this fact, it is almost exterminated from the western forests of Costa Rica. (Adapted from *Pittier, Contributions from the U. S. National Herbarium vol. 13, p. 275.*)

For previous introduction, see S. P. I. No. 38188.